

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Cancel).**

2. **(Cancel).**

3. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~
~~objects, such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim ~~1~~ 10,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking rings integrated in the base are
positioned in parallel and with the same center axis, so that ~~the~~ a centre
point between the centre holes of the locking rings coincides with ~~the~~ a
centre of the movement of a spindle which is held by the locking rings.

4. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~
~~objects, such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim ~~1~~,
~~characterized in that~~ 10, wherein the ball face of the base has its centre
at the centre point between the centre holes of the integrated locking
rings.

5. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~
~~objects, such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim ~~1~~,
~~characterized in that~~ 4, wherein the ball face part of the base is defined
by a solid angle with the centre at the centre point between the holes of
the locking rings of ~~preferably~~ more than 2.5 steradians and less than 6.0
steradians and additionally ~~preferably~~ defined by a steradian value of
between 4.0 and 5.0.

6. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~
~~objects, such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim ~~1~~,
~~characterized in that~~ the 10, wherein a surface of the base from the ball

face part changes its shape ~~from to~~ a truncated cone with the smallest radius toward near the ball face part and the largest radius in a direction ~~opposite the one in which~~ farthest from a spindle which extends from the base.

7. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~ objects, ~~such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that 10, wherein the base has only one and ~~just one~~ opening which is arranged at the top of the ball shape, said opening being defined by polymer material, said opening being circular with a diameter which is smaller than the diameter of the spindle which is attached to the base by insertion through the opening, measured in a complementary section.

8. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe ~~for the support of~~ objects, ~~such as apparatuses and machines,~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that 7, wherein the opening in the polymer material at the top of the ball face of the base from the entry hole toward the bottom face of the base on the first portion is cylindrical, and then the diameter increases over a portion, following which the diameter again diminishes over the next portion.

9. **(Currently amended)** A method for support of ~~objects, such as apparatuses and machines,~~ characterized in that ~~one or more components as described in claim 1 are used for the support~~ an object comprising providing a machine shoe as defined in claim 10, and positioning said object on said machine shoe.

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10. **(New)** A machine shoe for the support of objects comprising:
- a base formed of a lower part made of a polymer material and an upper part made of metal, said base providing an upper surface shaped as part of a ball face and containing two locking rings embedded in the lower part, and
- a movable metallic spindle which includes a lower end that extends through said upper part of said base and through said two locking rings in said lower part for attachment to said base.